



**MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., Governor**  
**STATE OF INDIANA**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY    JOSEPH E. WAINSCOTT JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Indiana Department of Homeland Security  
Indiana Government Center South  
302 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
317-232-3980*

For Immediate Release  
October 27, 2008

## **Emergency Responders Honored at Annual Conference**

INDIANAPOLIS – Emergency responders from across the state were honored at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Indiana Emergency Response Conference September 18-20, 2008.

The conference was hosted by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association and the Indiana Firefighters Association and is an opportunity for Hoosier first responders to advance their knowledge and skills in emergency response, as well as learn and share best practices with peers.

The sessions at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference are geared toward fire chiefs, firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, safety educators, hazardous material responders, technical rescue, and several other public safety professions. The conference has many educational opportunities and an abundance of information on new developments in emergency services. It also offers the opportunity to learn skills for mass casualty incidents, triage, patient assessment, and performance measurement.

### **2008 Emergency Response Conference Award Recipients**

**Photograph of the Year**

Mary Norton, Orland Community Volunteer Fire Department

**Ambulance Provider Public Relations Award**

Memorial Hospital EMS, Jasper

**David J. Edwards Memorial Instructor of the Year**

Kraig Kinney, Putnam County Operation Life

**EMS for Children Award**

Katie Sutherland, Harrison County Hospital EMS

**The Otis R. Bowen, M.D. Heroic Rescue Award**

John Gebhard, Perry County Memorial Hospital EMS

**EMT-Basic of the Year**

Theodore J. Townsend, Sugar Creek Fire Department and Transcare Ambulance Service, Terre Haute

**EMT Basic-Advanced of the Year**

Robert Gelhausen, Harrison County Hospital EMS

**EMT Intermediate of the Year**

Phyllis Caskey, Harrison County Hospital EMS

**The Frank D. Gilbert, Jr. Memorial, Paramedic of the Year**

Don Seketa, Wishard Hospital Ambulance Service

**Medical Director of the Year**

Dr. Peter L. Stevenson, Medical Director for AMR Ambulance Service, Evansville

**BLS Non-Transport Provider of the Year**  
Washington Fire Department, Washington

**Paramedic Provider of the Year**  
Wells County EMS

**EMT Intermediate Provider of the Year**  
Spencer County Emergency Ambulance Service

**Indiana Ambulance Association's Larry Meyer's Award**  
Lutheran Critical Care Transport, Mark Pepple,  
Heather Pepple

### **2008 Ambulance Competition Winners**

**EMT Basic**

*First Place*  
Statewide Transfer Ambulance and Rescue  
Ray Dotson and Tiffany Randall

*Second Place*  
Knox County EMS  
Jarod Siewers and Josh Able

**EMT Basic Advanced**

*First Place*  
Parkview Huntington EMS  
Jeff White, Brian Miller

*Second Place*  
Statewide Transfer Ambulance and Rescue  
Chad Haniford and John Powers

*Third Place*  
Parkview Huntington EMS  
Mike Fishbaugh and Mark Dinius

**EMT Intermediate**

*First Place*  
Knox County EMS  
Brian Ketterer and Matthew Livingston

*Second Place*  
Harrison County Hospital Ems  
Michael Caffrey and Joe Murcock

**Paramedic**

*First Place*  
Elkhart Fire Department  
Grant Roberts and Vito Palumbo

*Second Place*  
Franklin Township Fire Department  
Mike Anderson and Rick Allgood

*Third Place*  
Lutheran Air  
Mark Pepple and Heather Pepple

For a description of the award, please go to [www.in.gov/dhs/2341.htm](http://www.in.gov/dhs/2341.htm).

###

**Contact**

John Erickson, IDHS, 317.234.4214, [jerickson@dhs.in.gov](mailto:jerickson@dhs.in.gov)  
Rachel Meyer, IDHS, 317.232.8303, [rmeyer@dhs.in.gov](mailto:rmeyer@dhs.in.gov)